



Australian Bureau of Statistics

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A MESSAGE FROM THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

Over the last quarter there have been a number of main developments which are highlighted in this issue of ABstract:

- The ABS - ACT Office is coordinating several seminars and information sessions for our ACT clients. A seminar on **Understanding Demographic Data** will be conducted on 30 November 1999 at the Rydges Canberra. The seminar aims to provide an understanding of the demographic data framework and the processes which shape population and will include practical exercises in the analysis of demographic data. Also, an information session on the recently released publication **The Health and Welfare of Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples 1999** (Cat. no. 4707.0) will be held on 12 November in Civic (exact details to be advised). The publication is a joint project of the ABS and the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare. It covers a range of topics, including aspects of the demographic, social and economic context of health and wellbeing, the use of welfare and community services, risk factors for poor health, health service issues, and the morbidity and mortality of Indigenous Australians.
- The monthly publication ACT Business Indicators continues to present monthly summary of business-related statistics for the ACT, with national and other State comparisons. This publication is designed to be of assistance to business and other sectors. Feature articles pertaining to ACT are included in each issue of the publication. The most recent issues (August, September, and October) featured topics on Stock of Human Resources in Science and Technology, Career Experience in the ACT, Carers in the ACT, and Labour Force Experience in the ACT.
- A Regional Profiles project is underway. Four regional profiles for the Australian Capital Region are currently being compiled. The four areas include the ACT, the ACT

and Sub-region, South Eastern NSW SD (and Tumut SLA) and the Australian Capital Region. The regional profiles aim to expand on regional information already available in **Regional Statistics, ACT** and **ACT In Focus**. The profiles will consist of more than 40 tables of data including time series data. Areas covered include Population, Health, Disability, Crime, Families, Education, Employment, Indigenous, Social, Income, Economic, and Housing. There will also be a number of tables containing 1986, 1991 and 1996 Census data.

- The ACT Office is involved in other activities which include, the design of Census Collection Districts for the ACT and Monaro region for the 2001 Census of Population and Housing; Indigenous data quality audit with the aim of improving the quality of Indigenous identification in administrative data; delivering a responsive client service; marketing activities; and providing seminars and information sessions on relevant topics particularly to our ACT clients.
- The move for the ACT Office is making progress. Work is being completed at the new accommodation on the 5th floor at the QBE Building, 33-35 Ainslie Avenue in Civic. We look forward to having more space for the operations of the Office including accommodation for the Bookshop. This move is currently being worked out before the year ends.

Dalma Jacobs
Regional Director
ACT Office, Australian Bureau of Statistics

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RECENT MAJOR RELEASES

(excluding regular monthly and quarterly releases)

This listing shows ABS publications that have been released over the past several months. For release details of regular (monthly and quarterly) publications, please refer to Release Advice (ABS Cat 1105.0) issued to subscribers each Tuesday and Friday, or ABS Cat 1102.0 issued monthly.

General

1001.0	Australian Bureau of Statistics - Annual Report, 1998-99 (Oct)
1216.0	Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC), July 1999 (Sep)
1353.0	Integrated Regional Database, Australia, 1999 (July)

Census of Population and Housing

2009.0	Information Paper: 2001 Census of Population and Housing - ABS Views on Census Output Strategy (Sep)
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Demography and Social Statistics

3236.0	Household and Family Projections, Australia, 1996 to 20021 (Oct)
3310.0	Marriages and Divorces, Australia, 1998 (Aug)
4130.0	Housing Occupancy and Costs, Australia, 1997-98 (Oct)
4335.0	Health Insurance Survey, 1998 (Sep)
4431.0	Disability, Ageing and Carers: User Guide, Australia, 1998 (Sep)
4509.0	Crime and Safety, Australia, April 1998 (Aug)

4704.0	The Health and Welfare of Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People ,1999 (Aug)
5510.0	Expenditure on Education, 1997-98 (Sep)
8551.0	Dental Services, Australia, 1997-98 (Sep)

Economic Statistics

1233.0	Australian Harmonised Export Commodity Classification (AHECC), 1999 (July)
4603.0	Environment Protection Expenditure, Australia, 1995-96 and 1996-97 (July)
5338.0	Balance of Payments, Australia, Regional Series, 1997-98 (July)
5512.0	Government Finance Statistics, Australia, 1997-98 (July)

Labour Statistics

6254.0	Career Experience, Australia, Nov 1998 (July)
6260.0	Labour Force Projections, Australia, 2000 to 2016 (Sep)
6359.0	Forms of Employment, Australia, August 1998 (Oct)
6523.0	Income Distribution, Australia, 1997-98 (Aug)
8908.0	Medical Labour Force, 1997 (Oct)

Business and Industry

7113.0	Agriculture, Australia, 1997-98 (Oct)
7121.0	Agricultural Commodities, Australia, 1997-98 (July)
8129.0	Business Use of Information Technology, 1997-98 (Oct)
8141.0	Small and Medium Enterprises, Business Growth and Performance Survey, Australia, 1997-98 (Sep)
8208.0	Electricity, Gas, Water and Sewerage Industries, Australia, 1997-98 (Sep)
8221.0	Manufacturing Industry, Australia, 1997-98 (Sep)
8416.0	Directory of Mining Statistics, 1999 (Oct)
8550.0	Chiropractic and Osteopathic Services, Australia, 1997-98 (Aug)
8552.0	Physiotherapy Services, Australia, 1997-98 (Aug)
8553.0	Optometry and Optical Dispensing Services, Australia, 1997-98 (Oct)
8695.0	Accommodation Industry, Australia, 1997-98 (Aug)
9309.0	Motor Vehicle Census, Australia, Oct 1998 (Sep)

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NEWS AND REVIEWS

'Understanding Demographic Data' seminar

Following popular demand, another seminar on **Understanding Demographic Data** will be conducted by the ABS on 30 November 1999 to be held at the Rydges Canberra. Demographers Chris Mason and Sue Taylor will be presenting. The seminar will provide an understanding of the demographic data framework and the processes which shape the population and will include practical exercises in the analysis of demographic data.

Key issues to be covered during the seminar include:

- Relationship of Population Census counts to Estimated Resident Population data;
- Components of population growth - births, deaths and internal and overseas migration;
- How the ABS produces population estimates and projections, including for small

areas;

- The relevance of demographic data to social and economic issues;
- Tools for demographic analysis, with practical exercises; and
- Population dynamics: i.e. ageing and migration effects on the population profile.

This is a seminar that is well worth attending. Course notes and a copy of Australian Demographic Statistics (Cat.no. 3101.0) will be provided. The course fee of \$250 per person covers a full day session, course materials, and is fully catered. For more information, please contact Annette Jose on 02 6207 0277 or email marianita.jose@abs.gov.au. An information sheet together with a registration form is included with this issue of ABstract.

'The Health and Welfare of Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples' Information Session

An information session is being organized on the recently released publication **The Health and Welfare of Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples** (Cat no. 4707.0) to be held on 12 November 1999 in Civic (exact details to be advised). Staff from the National Centre for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Statistics, ABS, Darwin will be presenting. The publication is a joint project of the ABS and the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare. It covers a range of topics, including aspects of the demographic, social and economic context of health and wellbeing, the use of welfare and community services, risk factors for poor health, health service issues, and the morbidity and mortality of Indigenous Australians.

For further information on the information session, please contact Lenya Redfern on 02 6207 0446 or email lenya.redfern@abs.gov.au.

ABS Crime and Safety Survey, 1998 Information Session

An information session on the publication **Crime and Safety, Australia** (Cat no. 4509.0) was held for the ACT on 12 October 1999 by Carol Soloff of the National Crime and Safety Centre for Crime and Justice Statistics, ABS. The publication was based on the 1998 Crime and Safety Survey which was conducted primarily to obtain information on the experience of households and persons with selected crimes over the previous 12 months, and to obtain details of the crimes and the characteristics of the victims. Details for the offences of break-in, attempted break-in, motor vehicle theft, robbery, assault and sexual assault were presented, along with some comparison with 1993 data and police recorded crime. The information session also covered the characteristics of assault victims who experienced some kind of family violence in the 12 months prior to the survey, including:

- socio-demographic characteristics of victims
- characteristics of the most recent assault incident, eg. type of assault, whether injured, weapon used, whether reported to police and whether discussed the incident with others.

It was reported that in Australia, for the 12 months prior to the survey, 90 in 1,000 households and 48 in 1,000 persons had been victims of crime. For the ACT, 104 in 1,000 households and 77 in 1,000 persons were reported victims of crime in 1998. Break-in/attempted break-in has been the most prevalent crime on households (7.6% nationally and 9.1% for ACT), while assault has been the most prevalent crime committed on individuals

(4.3% nationally and 6.9% for ACT).

A previous Crime and Safety Survey was conducted in 1993 and shows that, where data can be compared, the prevalence rate of victimisation for offences were generally similar for 1993 and 1998. In the ACT, the 1998 prevalence rates for household break-ins, attempted break-ins and motor vehicle thefts have been slightly higher than the rates in 1993.

2001 Census of Population and Housing: Census Collection District Design

The ABS is in the process of designing the geographic areas for the forthcoming 2001 Census of Population and Housing. This process involves evaluating and where appropriate re-designing existing Census Collection Districts or creating new ones. Census Collection districts are the smallest geographic area defined in the Australian Standard Geographic Classification and are designed for use in the Census as the smallest unit for collection, processing and output of data.

This design task also takes into consideration other Australian Standard Geographic Classification geographical areas such as Statistical Local Areas and changes to Local Government Areas that may have taken place since the last Census. The ACT Office is currently involved in this task and is responsible not only for the design of the ACT but also for the Monaro region that includes the Local Government Areas/Statistical Local Areas of Queanbeyan, Yarrowlumla, Tallaganda, Bega Valley, Bombala, Cooma and Snowy River shires. The ACT Office to date has completed designing the Monaro region and is currently working on the ACT.

For further information about the Census collection district design for the ACT and Monaro region, please contact Bill Syms on 02 6207 0285 or email bill.syms@abs.gov.au.

ABS' 2001 Census Output Strategy

The ABS has commenced planning for products and services to be produced following the 2001 Census of Population and Housing. Qualitative research into census data users' views on both the overall 1996 Census output strategy and specific 1996 Census products and services was conducted in April this year. The ABS is currently planning a larger scale survey to supplement this initial research. The publication titled **ABS Views on Census Output Strategy** (Cat. no. 2009.0) has been released which outlines the Bureau's broad strategies for developing 2001 Census products and services. This publication includes a questionnaire which needs to be completed by 15 November 1999, for views to be considered in finalising these proposed strategies. The questionnaire is also available on the ABS web site: www.abs.gov.au (follow the Census link). We encourage you to complete it on-line.

We need your views on the 2001 Census Strategy. A briefing session was conducted in the ACT on 25 October 1999 at the Canberra Rex Hotel to provide background on planned strategies and information needed. For any inquiries regarding the planned strategies, please contact Will Blythe of the ABS-ACT Office on 02 6207 0311 or email will.blythe@abs.gov.au, or the ABS Census Processing and User Services on 02 6252 7007.

Indigenous Data Quality Audit

The aim of the ACT Indigenous Working Group is to improve the quality of Indigenous identification in administrative data. Information provided by the ACT Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages is a primary source of such data. Indigenous births and deaths reported to the ABS by the ACT Registry should match ABS estimates. However there are

some indications of under-reporting of indigenous deaths.

The purpose of the data quality audit being undertaken by the ACT Office is to ascertain the extent, and location, of under-reporting (if any) and the efficacy of the processes used in collecting and collating Indigenous status. There are several stages between the notification of a death in the ACT and the final data output by the ABS. It is these stages that are being concentrated on to check the quality of Indigenous identification. A review of birth records will also be conducted. An initial report on the process will be presented to the ACT Indigenous Working Group in November 1999.

For more information about the project, please contact Will Blythe on 02 6207 0311 or email will.blythe@abs.gov.au or Annette Jose on 02 6207 0277 or email marianita.jose@abs.gov.au.

ACT Business Indicators

The monthly publication **Business Indicators, ACT** (Cat. no. 1303.8) continues to provide updated monthly summary of business-related statistics for the ACT, with national and other State comparisons. Data updates include population, Consumer Price Index, building approvals, housing finance, building commencements, established house price index, price indexes of building materials, engineering construction, retail turnover, labour force, job vacancies, industrial disputes, average weekly earnings, tourist accommodation, new motor vehicle registrations, wage and salary earners, wage cost index, private new capital expenditure, State accounts and business expectations. Trend analysis, graphs and explanatory texts are also included. The publication is designed to be of assistance to business and other sectors.

Feature articles of particular interest to the ACT in comparison with national data are also included in each issue. The most recent issues (August, September, and October) featured topics, respectively, on Stock of Human Resources in Science and Technology, Career Experience in the ACT, Carers in the ACT, and Labour Force Experience in the ACT.

The Labour Force Experience report contains information on the labour force experience of ACT residents throughout the year ending February 1999. It reveals that there were approximately 217,500 ACT civilians aged 15-69 years in February 1999. Of these, an estimated 179,900 (83%) were in the labour force at some time during the year ending February 1999, compared to 77% of Australians aged 15-69 who either worked or looked for work at some time during the year. In the ACT there was a higher proportion of males (87%) than females (78%) who had participated in the labour force at some time in the 12 months up to February 1999. In the corresponding period there was a similar trend for Australia, with 85% of males and 69% of females who participated in the labour force at some time.

Business Indicators, ACT (Cat. no. 1303.8) is released around the third week of each month. For subscription of the publication, please contact Client Services on 02 6252 6627 or email client.services@abs.gov.au.

Regional Profiles

Four regional profiles for the Australian Capital Region are currently being compiled. The four areas include the ACT, the ACT & Sub-region, South Eastern NSW SD (and Tumut SLA) and the Australian Capital Region. Specifically, the profiles include:

- Australian Capital Territory - the whole of the ACT
- ACT & surrounds - aggregate of ACT, Cooma-Monaro, Gunning, Queanbeyan,

Yarrowlumla, and Yass

- Australian Capital Region - aggregate of ACT, Bega Valley, Bombala, Boorowa, Cooma-Monaro, Crookwell, Eurobodalla, Goulburn, Gunning, Harden, Mulwaree, Queanbeyan, Snowy River, Tallanganda, Tumut, Yarrowlumla, Yass and Young
- South Eastern NSW (and Tumut) - aggregate of South Eastern Statistical Division and Tumut Statistical Local Area.

The regional profiles aim to expand on regional information already available in **Regional Statistics, ACT and ACT In Focus**. The profiles will consist of more than 40 tables of data including time series data. Areas covered include Population, Health, Disability, Crime, Families, Education, Employment, Indigenous, Social, Income, Economic, and Housing. There will also be a number of tables containing 1986, 1991 and 1996 Census data.

The profiles are modelled on the ABS NSW Statistical Local Area profiles and will therefore be available for regional comparisons. For more information on the type of information provided in the profiles check the NSW Regional Profiles information. Contact Merran Butler, NSW Regional Office ABS, on (02) 9268 4194.

For more information on the Regional Profiles for the Australian Capital Region, please contact Will Blythe (02) 6207 0311 or Zoe Rivers on (02) 6207 0286. Alternatively, you may contact us via email:will.blythe@abs.gov.au or zoe.rivers@abs.gov.au.

ACT in Focus 1999

The 1999 edition of the **Australian Capital Territory in Focus** (Cat. no. 1307.8) was released in July 1999 and is gaining popular demand. The publication provides statistical summary of what has been happening in and around the Nation's Capital. Being the ACT's equivalent of the Australian Yearbook, it is a major resource tool used by business, government and the community in the ACT. This year's edition provides a wealth of informative and comprehensive insight on the ACT, covering a range of topics such as the economy, people, government, education, health, housing, tourism and transportation. There is also an expanded chapter dealing with the Australian Capital Region.

Only limited copies of the publication are available. You can get your copy of **ACT in Focus** plus **Regional Statistics ACT** at a special price of \$55.00 for both (you save \$11.00). Don't miss out your chance to avail of the latest information on every Canberra suburb! For further information regarding the publication, please contact Zoe Rivers on 02 6207 0286 or email zoe.rivers@abs.gov.au and for subscription on 02 6252 6627 or email client.services@abs.gov.au.

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NEW RELEASES

Manufacturing Industry, Australia, 1997-98 (8221.0)

Presents final results for establishments in Australia from the Manufacturing Survey. It shows details of employment, wages and salaries, turnover, and industry value added classified by industry class. Also includes industry subdivision data classified by employment size, State and Territory, and data related to exporting activity.

Income Distribution, Australia, 1997-98 (6523.0)

Details are presented on the distribution of income in Australia, and on the various

characteristics of income units (married couple, one parent and one-persons units), their composition, and the principal source of income, age and employment status of reference person.

Government Finance Statistics, Australia, 1997-98 (5512.0)

This publication provides details of the consolidated financial transactions of the non-financial public sector for all levels of government compiled in accordance with standards promulgated by the International Monetary Fund and United Nations. Tables show outlays, revenue and financing transactions for both general government and public trading enterprises; components of current and capital outlays by purpose (including details of payments from one level of government to another); and outlays, revenue and financing transactions excluding inter-governmental transfers, by level of government.

Marriages and Divorces, Australia, 1998 (3310.0)

This publication provides a valuable tool to examine family formation and dissolution as well as helping to quantify the number of children involved. While the main emphasis of the publication is registered marital status, allowance for change in living arrangements through the growing importance of de facto marriages is also recognised. It covers registration of marriages classified according to State or Territory of registration, age, previous marital status, country of birth of bridegrooms and brides and type of celebrant. Registered marriages dissolved are classified by age, duration of the marriage at final separation and at date of dissolution, country of birth and number of children. Estimates of the population by marital status, age and sex, at 30 June are also included.

The publication reveals that in Australia, the marriage rate in 1998 moved slightly upwards over its level in 1997. Over the last 20 years the trend has been a decline in the marriage rate. In 1998 there were 110,600 marriages registered in Australia, an increase of 3,0900 marriages when compared with 1997, but down from 116,800 marriages registered in 1988.

Integrated Regional Data Base (IRDB), Australia, 1999 (1353.0)

This publication provides a wide range of social, economic and environmental data on a regional basis and time series for these dating back to 1986 or earlier for some items. Contains statistical data from social and economic collections of the ABS and from other Commonwealth agencies, covering for example, the environment, health and disability, employment and unemployment, rural economies and electoral matters. Data are available from the all-Australia level down to Statistical Local Area. The IRDB produces interactive tables, graphs, and reports from screen-based selections of areas, data items and time periods. It has powerful exporting and importing functions, and extensive metadata. The IRDB has unique functions to handle geographic boundary changes, allowing a wide range of data items to be compared on a consistent regional basis through time. The user can select areas and further examine the data through powerful, integrated, Geographic Information System modules.

Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC), July 1999 (1216.0)

The ASGC is a classification system, designed and maintained by the ABS, which divides Australia into geographical areas for the purpose of collecting and disseminating statistics. The 1999 edition is the 17th edition since the ASGC was devised in 1984. It provides details of the geographical areas effective as at 1 July 1999 and also includes maps of these areas.

Motor Vehicle Census, Australia, October 1999 (9309.0)

Related statistics are presented for each State and Territory on the number of vehicles on register by type of vehicle (passenger vehicles, light commercial vehicles, rigid trucks, non-freight carrying trucks, buses and motor cycles), year of manufacture, make, gross vehicle mass, fuel type and average age of vehicle.

Agricultural Commodities, Australia, 1997-98 (7121.0)

This is a first issue of the publication. It presents final estimates of production for all commodities collected in the Agricultural Commodity Survey. These include broadacre crops, fruit and vegetables as well as the number of livestock and livestock products. Also includes details of industry structure including counts of farms by the Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification and size (physical and economic).

Career Experience Australia, November 1998 (6254.0)

This publication provides information on the career experiences of wage and salary earners including details of current job, changes in job such as promotions and transfers, and training opportunities. Other information available includes breaks away from work for six months or more, reasons for the break and type of leave taken, number of dependent children and child care arrangements. Estimates can be cross-classified by labour force demographics such as State, sex, age, marital status and birthplace.

The publication reveals that in November 1998 there were 7,006,600 employees in the Australian labour force. Of these, about 73% had been with their current employer for one year or more and had experienced some change in their work in the previous 12 months; 4% had been with their current employer for one year or more and had no change in their work; and 23% employees had been with their current employer for less than one year.

Expenditure on Education, Australia, 1997-98 (5510.0)

Indicates the extent and direction of both government and private expenditure in the field of education. Outlays on education by Commonwealth, State and local authorities and Universities are shown classified by economic category. For Commonwealth authorities, details are shown of grants to the States for educational purposes. Total outlays for Commonwealth Government, State, Territory and Local governments are shown by education purpose categories.

The publication reveals that total final expenditure on education, comprising the measures final consumption expenditure and gross fixed capital expenditure (by governments and the private sector) rose 4.9% from \$26,386 million in 1996-97 to \$27,686 million in 1997-98, and remained stable as a proportion of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at 4.9%.

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EXPECTED MAJOR RELEASES

(excluding regular monthly and quarterly releases)

This listing shows ABS publications which are expected to be released over the coming quarter, the expected month of release is shown in brackets.

General

1301.0	Year Book Australia, 2000 (Jan)
1309.0	Australia at a Glance, 2000 (Jan)

Demography and Social Statistics

3201.0	Population by Age and Sex, Australian States and Territories, 30 June 2000 (Dec)
3218.0	Regional Population Growth, Australia, 1998-99 (Jan)
3301.0	Births, Australia, 1998 (Nov)
3303.0	Causes of Deaths, Australia, 1998 (Nov)
3311.8	Demography, Australian Capital Territory, 1998 (Dec)
3315.0	Occasional Paper: Mortality of Indigenous Australian, 1996 (Dec)
4109.0	Older People, Australia: A Social Report (Dec)
4177.0.	Participation in Sport and Physical Activities , Australia, 1998-99 (Nov)
4174.0	Sports Attendance, Australia, April 1999 (Dec)
4220.0	Schools, Australia, Preliminary, 1999 (Jan)
4430.0.360.001	Disability, Ageing and Carers, Australia, 1998 (Nov)
4602.0	Environmental Issues: People's Views and Practices, March 1999 (Dec)
8902.0	Australian Health Trends, 1996 (Dec)

Economic Statistics

4604.0	Energy Accounts for Australia, 1992-93 to 1996-97 (Dec)
4609.0	Forest Account, Australia, 1998 (Dec)
4610.0	Water Account, Australia (Dec)
4611.0	Environment Expenditure Account, Local Government, Australia, 1997-98 (Dec)
5204.0	Australian System of National Accounts, 1998-99 (Nov)
5220.0	Australian National Accounts: State Accounts, 1998-99 (Nov)
5241.0.40.001	Australian National Accounts: National Balance Sheet, 1998-99 (Nov)
5506.0	Taxation Revenue, Australia, 1998-99 (Dec)
5517.0	Information Paper: Government Finance Statistics, 1999 (Nov)

Labour Statistics

6222.0	Job Search Experience of Unemployed Persons, Australia, July 1999 (Dec)
6227.0	Transition from Education to Work, Australia, May 1999 (Dec)
6293.0.00.002	Occasional Paper: Labour Market Programs, Unemployment and Employment Hazards (Dec)
6293.0.00.003	Occasional Paper: Job Quality and Churning of the Pool of the Unemployed, 1997 (Nov)
6310.0	Employee Earnings, Benefits and Trade Union Membership, Australia, Aug 1999 (Dec)

Business and Industry

1329.0	Australian Wine and Grape Industry, 1999 (Dec)
8140.0	Business Operations and Industry Performance, Australia, 1997-98 (Dec)
8225.0	Manufacturing, Australia (Dec)
8140.0.40.002	Summary of Industry Performance, 1997-98 (Dec)
8365.0	Manufacturing Production, Commodities Produced, Australia, 1997-98 (Dec)
8683.0	Casinos, Australia, 1998-99 (Dec)

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ENTRY POINTS TO THE ABS ACT OFFICE

National Dial a Statistic line

1900 986 400

(for main economic indicators other than
CPI) (75c per minute)

CPI Information line 1902 981 074
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About this release

ABstract - Statistical News: Australian Capital Territory provides new and relevant information about survey developments, information and training sessions, user consultations, major changes to the statistical program, state/territory data releases and significant ABS data releases.

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